

VISIT...

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Name _____

Author's Purpose

An author may have one or more **purpose**, or reason, for writing. He or she may want to *inform, persuade, entertain, or express* a mood or feeling.

Directions Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

The U.S. government finally let the Diné sign a second peace treaty in 1868. In return the Diné were given land in the Southwest. Their new reservation included their sacred Dinétah. The Diné were also given some livestock to replace what had been taken. They were given the right to make their own laws on this new reservation. Their days of raiding were over. The Diné had to promise to keep the peace, and they could no longer fight against the U.S. government.

The cavalry had destroyed Dinétah. Weeds grew throughout the once-plowed

fields, dirt filled the ditches where water once flowed, and the lovely peach trees were reduced to tree stumps. But the Diné still had their four sacred mountains.

The Diné wanted to repair the damage. They performed ceremonies in honor of their Mother Earth. They prayed that Mother Earth would bless them again. Over time the Diné made a comeback. By 1890 their population had doubled to eighteen thousand people. The Diné also increased the size of their reservation until they owned more than fifteen million acres of land.

1. What do you think is the author's main purpose for writing this passage? Explain.

2. What might be another reason the author wrote this passage? Explain.

3. Why do you think the author describes the way the cavalry had destroyed Dinétah?

4. Why do you think the author describes how the Diné "performed ceremonies" and "prayed"?

Name _____

Vocabulary

Directions Choose the word from the box that best matches each definition.
Write the word on the line.

Check the Words You Know

___ancestors

___cardinal points

___edible

___environmentalists

___hogans

___inhabited

___nomads

1. _____ safe to eat
2. _____ the four principal directions on the compass:
north, south, east, and west
3. _____ people who want to protect the land
4. _____ lived in a place

Directions Write the word from the box that belongs in each group.

5. buildings, houses, _____
6. family, relatives, _____
7. wanderers, travelers, _____

Directions Write a brief history of some of your ancestors. Use as many vocabulary words as you can. Use a separate sheet of paper if necessary.
